

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of performing a trick mode on a video signal containing a plurality of original pictures, comprising the steps of:
  - receiving a trick mode command;
  - searching the plurality of original pictures in the video signal for a picture compatible with the trick mode; and
  - initiating the trick mode once the compatible picture is located.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the compatible picture is an intra picture.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the compatible picture is a predictive picture.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the trick mode is a freeze trick mode and said method further comprises the step of repeating the compatible picture for the duration of the trick mode to form a trick mode signal.
5. The method according to claim 4, wherein said repeating step further comprises the step of repeating the compatible picture for the duration of the trick mode by inserting into the video signal dummy pictures predicted from the compatible picture to form the trick mode video signal.

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1           6.     The method according to claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of  
2 original pictures contains a display indicator and said method further comprises the  
3 step of selectively modifying the display indicator of the original pictures that follow  
4 the compatible picture when a dummy picture is inserted into the video signal.

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2           7.     The method according to claim 6, wherein the dummy pictures are  
dummy predictive pictures.

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2           8.     The method according to claim 7, wherein the compatible picture is an  
intra picture and said method further comprises the step of selectively inserting the  
3 compatible I picture into the trick mode signal.

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2           9.     The method according to claim 8, wherein at least a portion of the trick  
mode is decoded by a remote decoder.

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2           10.    A method of performing a trick mode on a video signal, comprising the  
steps of:  
3           receiving a trick mode command;  
4           searching for a picture in the video signal compatible with the trick mode; and  
5           initiating the trick mode once the compatible picture is located;  
6           wherein the trick mode command is a freeze trick mode.

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1           11.    A system for performing a trick mode on a video signal containing a  
2 plurality of original pictures, comprising:  
3           a controller for reading data from a storage medium and generating the video  
4 signal; and  
5           a video processor, wherein the processor is programmed to:  
6           receive a trick mode command;  
7           search the plurality of original pictures for a picture in the video signal  
8 compatible with the trick mode; and  
9           initiate the trick mode once the compatible picture is located.

1           12.    The system according to claim 11, wherein the compatible picture is an  
2 intra picture.

1           13.    The system according to claim 11, wherein the compatible picture is a  
2 predictive picture.

1           14.    The system according to claim 11, wherein the trick mode is a freeze  
2 trick mode and the processor is further programmed to repeat the compatible picture  
3 for the duration of the trick mode to form a trick mode signal.

1           15.    The system according to claim 14, wherein the processor is further  
2 programmed to repeat the compatible picture for the duration of the trick mode by  
3 inserting into the video signal dummy pictures predicted from the compatible picture  
4 to form the trick mode video signal.

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1           16.    The system according to claim 15, wherein each of the plurality of  
2 original pictures contains a display indicator and the processor is further  
3 programmed to selectively modify the display indicator of the original pictures that  
4 follow the compatible picture when a dummy picture is inserted into the video signal.

1           17.    The system according to claim 16, wherein the dummy pictures are  
2 dummy predictive pictures.

1           18.    The system according to claim 17, wherein the compatible picture is an  
2 intra picture and the processor is further programmed to selectively insert the  
3 compatible I picture into the trick mode signal.

19.    The system according to claim 18, further comprising a remote decoder  
for decoding at least a portion of the trick mode video signal.